

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN PINT, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: OPENING OF VESCO INDICTMENT

1. TO SUPPLEMENT SEPTEL ON SUBJECT, DEPARTMENT WISHES TO GIVE FLAVOR OF PRESS ATTENTION TO STORY. ARTICLE BY NORMAN LUBASCH ON PAGE 31 OF NOV. 1 N.Y. TIMES IS TITLED "VESCO EXTRADITION IS SOUGHT ON NEW FRAUD INDICTMENT." ARTICLE BEGINS, "SEVERAL PROSECUTORS SAID HERE YESTERDAY THAT THEY WERE NOW ATTEMPTING TO EXTRADITE ROBERT L. VESCO ON THE BASIS OF A NEW INDICTMENT CHARGING THE FUGITIVE FINANCIER WITH FRAUD." "THE NEW INDICTMENT WHICH WAS VOTED BY A GRAND JURY ON JULY 20 AND UNSEALED BY JUDGE LEE P. GAGLIARDI YESTERDAY IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT HERE, REPRESENTS A RENEWED EFFORT TO EXTRADITE MR. VESCO BY ALLEGING THAT HE DEFRAUDED A CORPORATION HE CONTROLLED." ACCORDING TO ARTICLE INDICTMENT IS FOR THE USE OF \$50,000 IN FUNDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL CORPORATION FOR VESCO'S PERSONAL BENEFIT. MONEY WAS ALLEGEDLY USED TO PAY FOR

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STOCK HE BOUGHT FROM C. HENRY BUHL III, DIRECTOR OF

ANOTHER VESCO CORPORATION, IOS LIMITED. ARTICLE LATER

CITES FEDERAL PROSECUTORS AS SAYING THAT CHARGE OF COMPLETED FRAUD ALLEGED UNDER NEW INDICTMENT "CAME UNDER EXTRADITION TREATIES BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES." AFTER RELATING HISTORY OF UNSUCCESSFUL EXTRADITION REQUEST IN COSTA RICA, ARTICLE ATTRIBUTES FAILURE TO GROUNDS TREATY DID NOT COVER ATTEMPTED FRAUD, AND CONCLUDES ... "THE PROSECUTORS ATTEMPTED TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTY BY ALLEGING A COMPLETED FRAUD IN THE LATEST INDICTMENT MAKING IT THE VEHICLE TO SEEK THE FINANCIER'S RETURN TO THIS COUNTRY."

2. NOV. 1 WASH. POST ALSO CARRIES A UPI ITEM ON INDICTMENT. BEYOND N.Y. TIMES STORY, POST ITEM ADDS THAT VESCO IS CHARGED WITH SENDING A TELEGRAM FROM THE BANK OF AMERICA IN SAN FRANCISCO TO THE COMPAGNIE DE BANQUE ET D'INVESTMENTE IN GENEVA WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO PAY \$50,000. TO BUHL.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED MANY INFORMAL INQUIRIES ON SUBJECT FROM PRESS. OUR RESPONSE HAS BEEN THAT THE USG IS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITIES OF ANOTHER EXTRADITION REQUEST. NO QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED AT NOON BRIEFING AND NO PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PREPARED.

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